

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1           1.       (Currently Amended) A retention system for a hand tool combination  
2       having a ~~primary tool~~ an axe and a secondary tool, comprising:  
3                   a first magnet having a first polarity coupled to the axe ~~primary tool~~;  
4                   a second magnet having a second polarity coupled to the secondary  
5       tool;  
6                   wherein the first polarity and the second polarity are configured for  
7       attraction by a magnetic force;  
8                   so that the secondary tool is retained in connection with the axe  
9       ~~primary tool~~.
- 1           2.       (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the  
2       first magnet is fixed to the axe ~~primary tool~~.
- 1           3.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 2 wherein the  
2       second magnet is fixed to the secondary tool.
- 1           4.       (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 3 wherein the  
2       first magnet has one of a positive polarity and a negative polarity and the second  
3       magnet has the other of the positive polarity and the negative polarity.
- 1           5.       (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the  
2       first magnet is substantially aligned with the second magnet when the secondary tool  
3       is retained in a stowed position within a receptacle of the axe ~~primary tool~~.
- 1           6.       (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein at least  
2       one of the first magnet and the second magnet comprises a rare earth magnet ~~the~~  
3       ~~primary tool is an axe~~.

1           7.       (Currently Amended) The retention system of ~~Claim 6~~ Claim 1  
2 wherein the secondary tool is one of a knife and a saw.

1           8.       (Withdrawn) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the first magnet  
2 is at least partially offset from the second magnet.

1           9.       (Withdrawn) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the offset is  
2 sufficient to maintain a magnetic attraction to draw the secondary tool toward a  
3 stowed position in connection with the primary tool.

1           10.      (Currently Amended) A combination hand tool having an axe a  
2 ~~primary hand tool~~ configured for storage of a secondary hand tool therein, the  
3 combination hand tool comprising:  
4                   a receptacle formed within an elongated handle ~~member~~ of the axe  
5 ~~primary hand tool~~;  
6                   a first magnet having a first polarity coupled to the axe ~~primary hand~~  
7 ~~tool~~;  
8                   a second magnet having a second polarity opposite the first polarity  
9 and coupled to the secondary hand tool and configured to operably engage the first  
10 magnet;  
11                  ~~so that the secondary hand tool is retained~~ being retainable within the  
12 receptacle by a magnetic force.

1           11.      (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein  
2 ~~the primary hand tool is an axe and~~ the secondary hand tool is selected from the group  
3 consisting of a camping gear item, a survival gear item, a hiking gear item, and a  
4 fishing gear item.

1           12.      (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first  
2 magnetic member is coupled to an actuatable member configured to alternate a  
3 polarity of the first magnetic member for interfacing with the second magnetic  
4 member.

1           13.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the  
2     actuatable member is a thumbwheel.

1           14.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first  
2     magnetic member and the second magnetic member are operable to at least partially  
3     withdraw the second hand tool from the receptacle.

1           15.     (Original) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the  
2     magnetic force is a minimum of approximately 4000 gauss.

1           16.     (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein  
2     the first magnet is fixed to the axe ~~primary hand tool~~ and the second magnet is fixed  
3     to the secondary hand tool.

1           17.     (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein  
2     the first magnet and the second magnet are configured in substantial alignment when  
3     the secondary hand tool is retained within the axe ~~primary hand tool~~.

1           18.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first  
2     magnet and the second magnet are configured in at least a partially offset relationship  
3     when the secondary hand tool is retained within the primary hand tool.

1           19.     (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the  
2     actuatable member is configured for rotational movement.

1           20.     (Currently Amended) A system for storing ~~a first~~ an object in  
2 connection with an axe ~~a second object~~, comprising:  
3                   ~~a first retainer having~~ a first magnet with a first polarity coupled to the  
4 ~~first object~~;  
5                   ~~a second retainer having~~ a second magnet with a second polarity  
6 coupled to the axe, the second magnet ~~second object~~ and configured to attract the first  
7 ~~retainer~~ magnet by a magnetic attraction;  
8                   ~~so that the first retainer~~ magnet and the second magnet ~~retainer~~ are  
9 being operable to retain the ~~second~~ object in connection with the axe ~~first object~~ until  
10 the ~~second~~ object is removed by overcoming the magnetic attraction;  
11                  wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of a knife, a  
12 saw, a cooking utensil, a compartment, a camping gear item, a hunting gear item, a  
13 fishing gear item and a survival gear item.

1           21.     (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 20 wherein the ~~first~~ object  
2 is retainable at least partially within the axe ~~a hand tool~~.

1           22.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first retainer is  
2 configured to be actuatable between a first position for retention of the second object  
3 and a second position for extraction of the second object.

1           23.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 22 wherein the first magnetic  
2 member and the second magnetic member are attracted in the first position.

1           24.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 23 wherein the first magnetic  
2 member and the second magnetic member are repelled in the second position.

1           25.     (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first magnetic  
2 member is fixed to the first object and the second magnetic member is fixed to the  
3 second object so that the first magnetic member and the second magnetic member are  
4 arranged in a relationship that is at least partially offset with respect to each other.

1           26.     (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 20 wherein the ~~first object~~  
2     axe comprises an elongated ~~member~~ handle providing a receptacle and the ~~second~~  
3     object is configured for retention at least partially within the receptacle.

1           27.     (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 26 wherein the axe ~~first~~  
2     object is a camp axe and ~~the second object is selected from the group consisting of a~~  
3     ~~knife, a saw, a cooking utensil, a compartment, a camping gear item, a hunting gear~~  
4     ~~item, a fishing gear item and a survival gear item.~~

1           28.     (Currently Amended) In an apparatus comprising a first ~~hand~~ cutting  
2     tool having a receptacle and a second ~~hand~~ cutting tool configured for storage within  
3     the receptacle, the improvement comprising a retention system having a first magnet  
4     with a first polarity coupled to the first ~~hand~~ cutting tool and a second magnet with a  
5     second polarity coupled to the second ~~hand~~ cutting tool, where the first polarity and  
6     the second polarity are configured for magnetic attraction, so that the second ~~hand~~  
7     cutting tool is retained within the receptacle until removed by a user.

1           29.     (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the ~~first~~  
2     ~~hand tool comprises a~~ first cutting tool comprises an axe and the ~~second hand tool~~  
3     ~~comprises a~~ second cutting tool comprises a knife.

1           30.     (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first  
2     polarity is one of a positive polarity and a negative polarity ~~comprises~~.

1           31.     (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 30 wherein the first retainer is  
2     configured to alternate the polarity of the first magnetic member relative to the second  
3     retainer.

1           32.     (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the first magnetic  
2     member is configured for rotation.

1           33.     (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the  
2     receptacle is provided in a handle of the first cutting tool ~~second retainer comprises a~~  
3     ~~second magnetic member.~~

1           34.     (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first retainer is  
2     actuatable between a first position for retention of the second hand tool within the  
3     receptacle and a second position for withdrawal of the second hand tool from the  
4     receptacle.